

"Signed, Sealed, and Delivered"  
Revelation 7

Question: What was the last question of chapter 6?

The contextual focus of this interlude is to identify the answer to this question.

Question: This is in anticipation of what seal being opened?

Answer:

Note: "After this" is the phrase that indicates another event that is either \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_. Cp. 4:1 notes.

Question: What does John see "after" his experience with the six seals?

Answer: After John sees the sixth seal opened a new scene opens before him. It is not the opening of the \_\_\_\_\_ seal or the \_\_\_\_\_ trumpet. It is a picture of four angels holding the winds back.

The "four winds" are not \_\_\_\_\_ corners of the earth but a phrase used to connote \_\_\_\_\_, e.g. north, south, east, and west.

Look at the following verses and describe what is intended.

Jeremiah 49:36 – 37 -

Daniel 7:2 –

Question: What was the intent of the "holding back"?

Answer:

Question: What does this represent?

Answer: Cp. v. 2b-3

Question: What did John see next? (vv. 2-3)

Answer:

1. John saw another angel (of the same \_\_\_\_\_) coming up from the direction of the \_\_\_\_\_.

Question: What is significant about this direction?

Genesis 2:8 –

Genesis 3:24 –

Genesis 41:5-6 –

Exodus 10:13-14 –

Ezekiel 10:19 –

Ezekiel 43:1-4 -

Answer: The direction of east is associated with initial blessing, judgment, and re-established blessing – the direction used to indicate a movement \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ from God.

We cannot take the time to exhaust this but...  
Cain was exiled to the east.  
The Tower of Babel was built in the east.  
Lot chose to go east toward Sodom and Gomorrah.  
The wisemen saw the star in the east.  
Jesus will come again and enter the eastern gate.

2. This angel had "the \_\_\_\_\_ of the living God."

Question: What is this, to whom was it given, and for what purpose?

Answer:

1. The Greek word, *sphrages*, was the word used for a king's signet ring or \_\_\_\_\_ ring. This ring, stamped into fresh, hot wax that sealed a document, was the sign of authority, \_\_\_\_\_, and possession.
2. This seal represents the Living God, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. These individuals are, therefore, his \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Look at 14:1. What is the identifying mark of the seal?

Answer: The name of \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ (Ancient of Days?).

4. It was placed upon the \_\_\_\_\_ of the servants of God.

Question: Has this marking ever happened before (literally or symbolically)?

Answer: Ezekiel 9:1-6

Question: Who were these servants of God? Vv. 4-8

Answer:

Three options:

**Option 1** – \_\_\_\_\_ interpretation = These are literally 144,000 men (cf. 14:4)

1. These individuals are sealed, which means they are \_\_\_\_\_ and protected.

Cp. Rev. 9:4 -

Cp. Ex. 39:14 -

2. They are \_\_\_\_\_.
3. It does not speak to \_\_\_\_\_ tribe, but these individuals come from or out of the tribes of Israel.

Look at the following list and identify the difference.

Twelve sons of Jacob: Genesis 46 ordering/Rev. 7 ordering; Cp. Joshua 14ff

- |              |              |
|--------------|--------------|
| 1. Reuben    | 1. Judah     |
| 2. Simeon    | 2. Reuben    |
| 3. Levi      | 3. Gad       |
| 4. Judah     | 4. Asher     |
| 5. Issachar  | 5. Naphtali  |
| 6. Zebulun   | 6. Manasseh  |
| 7. Gad       | 7. Simeon    |
| 8. Asher     | 8. Levi      |
| 9. Joseph    | 9. Issachar  |
| 10. Benjamin | 10. Zebulun  |
| 11. Dan      | 11. Joseph   |
| 12. Naphtali | 12. Benjamin |

4. There are \_\_\_\_\_ from each tribe represented. In biblical numerology, the number 12 speaks to \_\_\_\_\_ or completion.

**Option 2:** The 144,000 is to be taken \_\_\_\_\_ to represent the remnant of Israel that God promised would be saved.

Cp. Romans 9:27 – “<sup>27</sup> Isaiah cries out concerning Israel: ‘Though the number of the Israelites be like the sand by the sea, only the remnant will be saved.’”

**Option 3:** The 144,000 represents the “all Israel will be saved” or a \_\_\_\_\_ number of Jews coming to know Yeshua as their Messiah.

Cp. Rom. 11:25-27

Question: What did John see next in verse 9a?

Answer: A view of the \_\_\_\_\_ population that no one could count represented by every ethnicity, family grouping, and tongue before the Father and the Son.

Question: How are they described? V. 9b

Answer: They were wearing \_\_\_\_\_ robes and were holding \_\_\_\_\_ branches in their hands. (Rev. 7:9 NIV)

### **A Call and Response**

Question: What did this massive group of people cry out?

Answer:

Question what did the rest of the witnesses in heaven do in response to this cry?  
Vv. 11-12.

Answer: “<sup>11</sup> All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, <sup>12</sup> saying: \_\_\_\_\_! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and strength be to our God for ever and ever. \_\_\_\_\_!” (Rev. 7:11-12 NIV)

Question: What question did one of the elders ask? [It is not really a question but a prompting]

Answer:

Question: Who were they? V. 14

Answer: “<sup>14</sup> I answered, ‘Sir, you know.’ And he said, ‘These are they who have come out of the \_\_\_\_\_; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.’” (Rev. 7:14 NIV)

Question: What does this mean?

Answer: They came to salvation the way everyone comes – through \_\_\_\_\_ in Jesus and his substitutionary atonement. However, they will come at a very difficult time in all recorded history. In other words, the decision to follow Christ will mean \_\_\_\_\_ hardship, persecution, and most likely death.

Question: What is the result of this relationship with Jesus? Vv. 15-16

Answer:

1. They will have the privilege of \_\_\_\_\_ God for eternity in His presence.
2. The Father will keep them \_\_\_\_\_.

3. The Father will \_\_\_\_\_ for their needs – they won't suffer.
4. Jesus will \_\_\_\_\_ for them both physically and spiritually.
5. The Father will have \_\_\_\_\_ on them and comfort them

Question: Why the interlude psychologically?

Answer: The same reason for chapters 4-5 prior to the seals of 6 – God wants John not to lose \_\_\_\_\_ when things get horrific. God wants John to know that during the worst persecution, people will still come to Jesus.